constituted a committee comprising DGM (Operations) and DGM (Quality Control) to investigate the matter. Suitable necessary action would be taken after the matter has been enquired into.

Oil Refinery near Allahabad

1671. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the proposed refinery in Lohgada (near Allahabad)
has started; if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the work is likely to start; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI
SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) Land has been acquired and walled-off but construction is yet to begin.

(b) and (c) As at present, the implementation of the refinery project for Uttar Pradesh is slated to be taken up after completion of the Central India Refinery Project at Bina (Madhya Pradesh). The scheduled completion of Central India Refinery Project is projected in 2009-10.

Reserve fund with oil corporations

1672. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil corporations *viz.,* ONGC, Indian Oil, HPCL and BPCL, have been operating profitably;

(b) if so, the corporation-wise details of gross and net profit earned both in absolute term and percentage of turnover year-wise, since 2001-02 upto 2004-05 alongwith percentage of profit disbursed as dividend and volume thereof in absolute term and portions of profit transferred to reserve fund;

(c) the indentities of the top ten recipients of dividends year-wise, indicating percentage of total dividend received by each and its volume on each occasion; and

(d) the details of reserve fund as on 30th June, 2005, Corporation-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Impact of strike against price hike

1673. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any nation-wide strike recently of lorries, vans, autos and other vehicles to protest against the recent price hike of petrol and diesel;

(b) the impact of this strike in terms of economic loss for the entire country;

(c) whether the import and export process was affected on the date of strike;

(d) whether there was any law and order problem due to the strike; and

(e) what were the preventive measures taken to avert the strike?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) The transport operators under the banner of All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) went on a one day token strike on 28 June 2005 in protest against the recent hike in prices of petrol and diesel. Overall, the strike had no impact on the movement of trucks except in a few States like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu where inter-State and intra-State movements had been partially affected. No untoward incident involving law and order problem came to the notice of Government during the one day token strike.

Demand and Supply of kerosene

1674. SHRI THENNALAG BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between the demand and supply of Kerosene sold through PDS in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;